



**State of Rhode Island
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**Solicitation Information
January 9, 2013**

ADDENDUM # 1

RFP# 7458368

RFP Title: State Innovation Model Design Technical Assistance

Bid Opening Date & Time: January 22, 2013 @ 10:00 AM (Eastern Standard Time)

Notice to Vendors:

ATTACHED ARE VENDOR QUESTIONS WITH STATE RESPONSES.

NO FURTHER QUESTIONS WILL BE ANSWERED.

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Interdepartmental Project Manager**

Interested parties should monitor this website, on a regular basis, for any additional information that may be posted.

Vendor Questions for RFP # 7458368 State Innovation Model Design Technical Assistance

Question 1: The solicitation references a project plan (on pages 7 and 8, Section 3.1). Should the detailed project plan be submitted as part of the response to the solicitation or is it to be completed as the first deliverable once the contract is signed between Rhode Island and the selected contractor? (TASK 1-ACTIVITY 1.1-Project Management)

Answer to question 1:

The state expects the first deliverable for the successful contractor completing Task 1 to be a detailed project plan.

Question 2: Will the contractor be responsible for all progress reports submitted to CMS? (TASK 1-ACTIVITY 1. 1- Project Management)

Answer to question 2:

The contractor will be expected to assist the state in the preparation of progress reports or other reports that may be required under the cooperative agreement with CMS.

Question 3: Is the contractor expected to participate in the CMS evaluation of the planning and design process? (TASK 1-ACTIVITY 1.1- Project Management)

Answer to question 3:

Yes.

Question 4: If necessary, does the state have a preference between leasing on-site office space to the contractor versus the contractor leasing office space privately? (TASK 1-ACTIVITY 1.1- Project Management)

Answer to question 4:

The state does not have a preference, however, there is very limited space that may be available in state owned properties.

Question 5: Will the State identify specific internal and external stakeholders that shall participate in the model design collaborative planning process? (TASK 1-ACTIVITY 1. 2- Facilitation)

Answer to question 5:

Yes.

Question 6: Does the State want the proposer to include a proposed list of stakeholder participants as part of its proposal response? (TASK 1-ACTIVITY 1.2- Facilitation)

Answer to question 6:

See Ques. 5.

Question 7: Will meetings of stakeholders engaged in collaborative planning be considered public meetings or will they be by invitation only? (TASK 1-ACTIVITY 1.2- Facilitation)

Answer to question 7:

Stakeholder meetings will be considered open meetings under Rhode Island General Laws. The state convenes such meetings with an “open-door” format such that anyone who attends is considered to be a full participant.

Question 8: Will the State reimburse consumers, other stakeholder participants, and/or national experts for their time or cost (e.g. travel, honorariums, stipends, etc.) to participate? If yes, should those costs be included or excluded from our proposal? (TASK 1-ACTIVITY 1. 2- Facilitation)

Answer to question 8:

The state does not expect to reimburse stakeholders or consumers for participation, nor does it expect any vendor to do so. It is unclear what, if any, support will be available from the cooperative agreement for travel costs for national experts.

Question 9: Does the State want the proposer to include costs for State employees to attend conferences and/or meetings with other States engaged in model design planning? (TASK 1-ACTIVITY 1. 2- Facilitation)

Answer to question 9:

No. Travel for state employees will be paid by the state using cooperative agreement funds.

Question 10: Will the State recruit, encourage, or require other health care payers (private insurance, Medicare Advantage Health Plan, and public employee health plans) to participate in the multi-payer model design planning? (TASK 1-ACTIVITY 1. 2- Facilitation)

Answer to question 10:

Yes.

Question 11: Will other payers or funders be expected to contribute to the cost of project (direct or in-kind) including for such costs as data collection, data analysis, research, stakeholder participation (e.g. consumers, providers, or advocates), etc.? (TASK 1-ACTIVITY 1. 2- Facilitation)

Answer to question 11:

Yes.

Question 12: Will the contractor be expected or be eligible to participate in the model test implementation process should the State be awarded a model test award? (TASK 1-ACTIVITY 1.3- Strategic Decision Identification and Resolution)

Answer to question 12:

The state expects that, if it were awarded a model test agreement, the implementation would require contractor support. Any successful contractor under this procurement would be eligible to participate in model test work, if awarded, subject to state purchasing regulations.

Question 13: Does assistance with communication include the media or other public relations assistance? (TASK 1-ACTIVITY 1. 4- Communications)

Answer to question 13:

Yes.

Question 14: Is the State also going to request any specific type of technical assistance from CMS as part of one of their technical assistance programs? (TASK 2)

Answer to question 14:

Yes.

Question 15: Does the cost of data collection from health plans need to be included in the contractor proposal or is this expected to be an in-kind contribution by participating health plans? (TASK 3)

Answer to question 15:

Bidders should not include costs borne by health plans to compile raw data for vendor use in their proposal.

Question 16: Are there specific reports or data sets that are already available to the State that the contractor may use, such as an All Payer Claims Database, Medicaid FFS claims data, Medicaid claims/encounter data, provider rate schedules, provider information files (including specialty, location, language spoken, affiliations), and Rhode Island consumer demographic data? (TASK 3)

Answer to question 16:

Yes. While the state's All Payer Claims Database is not yet up and running, Medicaid, the Department of Health, and the Exchange have a number of datasets that would be available for a vendor.

Question 17: We are a firm that is less than five years old; however, the firm's principals all have at least five years of state health policy and/or industry experience. Furthermore, the firm and its principals meet all of the other credentials listed in Section 4.1 (Contractor Requirements). Is our firm eligible to apply as a vendor or do we need to partner with another entity that has been in existence for at least five years?

Answer to question 17:

The state expects bidders to demonstrate verifiable experience of key staff proposed to meet the criteria required in the request. A firm that is less than 5 years old does not disqualify a bidder.

Question 18: Has the State developed any budget ranges within each of the four tasks listed in the RFP? If so, are those budget ranges public information?

Answer to question 18:

No.

Question 19: Will the vendor(s) selected as part of the State Innovation Model Design Technical Assistance project team remain eligible to participate as vendors in the subsequent State Innovation Model Test, when and if, Rhode Island should be selected by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation?

Answer to question 19:

See Ques. 12.